

REMARKS

There are now pending in this application Claims 1, 5-10, and 25-27, of which Claims 1, 5, 6, and 7 are independent. Claims 2, 3, 4, 23 and 24 have been cancelled without prejudice or waiver of their subject matter. Claims 25-27 are newly added.

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration together with entry of those amendments and allowance of the above application is respectfully sought.

In the outstanding Official Action Claims 7-10 stand allowed. As none of these claims have been further amended, they remain in condition for allowance.

Claims 23 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. As each of these claims has been cancelled, the rejection, Applicants submit, is now moot.

Each of pending independent Claims 1, 5, and 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by Payne (U.S. Patent No. 5,076,076). In view of the above amendments and the reasons which follow, the rejections are respectfully traversed.

The invention as now set forth in independent Claim 1 is directed to a DC motor control method in a device which drives a mechanism by using a DC motor as a power source. The method includes a first velocity command value generation step for generating a velocity command value to the motor in accordance with a first function, a determination step for determining whether the mechanism arrives at a predetermined position within a deceleration region and a second velocity command value generation step for generating a velocity command value to the motor in accordance with a second function having an initial value less than a

minimum value of the velocity command value generating in the first velocity command value generation step, upon the determination that the mechanism arrives at the predetermined position in the determination step.

Independent Claim 5 is directed to a program product which includes program codes for performing the above method and independent Claim 6 is directed to a storage medium which stores program codes for performing the above-identified method steps.

Applicants submit that the amendments to each of Claims 1, 5, and 6 are supported at least by Figure 7 together with the corresponding description in the specification.

As the Examiner will appreciate, each of Claims 1, 5, and 6 incorporates, in addition to the first and second velocity command value generation steps a determination step for determining whether the mechanism arrives at a predetermined position within a deceleration region of the motor. As a result of those combination of features, the time necessary to stop the mechanism can be reduced without degrading the positioning accuracy.

The aforementioned features are neither taught nor suggested in Payne. As the Examiner will also appreciate, the distinguishing features discussed above are comparable to those included within Claim 7, which claim stands allowed. Accordingly, each of Claims 1, 5, and 7 are also believed patentable over the art of record for reasons that Claim 7 was deemed patentable.

The remaining claims in the above application are dependent claims which depend either directly or indirectly from one of the above-discussed independent claims and are therefore patentable over the art of record for reasons noted above with respect to the


independent claims. In addition, each recite features of the invention still further distinguishing it from the applied art. Favorable and independent consideration thereof is respectfully sought.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendments as they are being presented in an earnest effort to advance prosecution and to place the application in condition for allowance. While three claims have been added, a greater number have been cancelled. In addition, the amendments to each of independent Claims 1, 5, and 6 incorporate what is believed to be allowable subject matter from already allowed Claim 7. As such, such amendments are believed to substantially advance prosecution.

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration together with entry of the above amendments and early passage to issue of the above application is respectfully sought.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
Lawrence A. Stahl
Registration No. 30,110

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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